

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT M 00440 300757Z  
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12  
AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01  
SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-10 INT-05  
JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01  
PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /163 W  
-----036285 301856Z /72

R 300005Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3155  
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
AMEMBASSY SUVA  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON  
USMISSION GENEVA  
CINCPAC HONOLULU  
CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0440

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI PASS STATUS LNO

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EFIS, XP, XU, PP  
SUBJECT: SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY

REF: A) STATE 075501, B) STATE 040463 (NOTAL),  
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C) PORT MORESBY 0276 (NOTAL)

1. SEVERAL ASPECTS OF THE STRATEGY OUTLINED IN REFTTEL A  
TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES PRIOR TO JUNE MEETING TO ESTABLISH  
SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY STRIKE US AS  
INAPPROPRIATE WITH RESPECT TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA. FIRST,  
THRUST OF CABLE IS THAT USG SEEMS TO HAVE DECIDED TO GET

OUT IN FRONT ON DISCUSSIONS PRIOR TO JUNE MEETING. DOING SO WOULD EXACERBATE GPNG FEARS, HOWEVER IRRATIONAL, OF US INTENTIONS TO DOMINATE ORGANIZATION AND STRENGTHEN ITS CONVICTION THAT AGENCY SHOULD BE, AS PNGNORIGINALLY DESIRED, A CLOSED GROUP OF SOUTH PACIFIC COASTAL STATES (GPNG SEES U.S. AS A DISTANT WATER FISHER DESPITE THE PROXIMITY OF TTPI). SOME OFFICIALS WITHIN GPNG ARE LIKELY TO ASSERT PRIVATELY THAT IF THE USG DOES NOT LIKE THE WAY THE SOUTH PACIFIC COUNTRIES ARE PREPARING FOR NEXT MEETING, THEN USG SHOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN IT.

2. WE ALSO HAVE A PROBLEM WITH GENEVA CONSULTATIONS AS ENVISAGED REFTEL A. GPNG IS REPRESENTED IN GENEVA BY GEOFFREY DABB, ONE OF TWO PEOPLE IN GPNG MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE ON FISHERIES ISSUES AND ARCHITECT OF RELATIVELY INTRANSIGENT GPNG POSITION. DABB, AS SEASONED BUREAUCRAT, WOULD READILY ACCEPT IDEA THAT MANY ISSUES SHOULD BE THRASHED OUT PRIOR TO SUVA MEETING, BUT MIGHT WELL REACT ADVERSELY TO IDEA THAT USG IS TAKING LEADERSHIP.

3. REFTEL B STATED, INTER ALIA, "DEPARTMENT WOULD BE WILLING, IF PNG RESPONSE TO THIS POINT IS POSITIVE, TO FIELD SMALL TEAM OF EXPERTS TO VISIT PORT MORESBY FOR TALKS IN THIS POSSIBILITY MAY BE MENTIONED AT EMBASSY'S DISCRETION." AS INDICATED REFTEL C, THIS WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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RAISED WITH FONMIN OLEWALE WHO THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IN IRONING OUT DIFFERENCES. NOW THAT WE HAVE TOLD FONMIN OLEWALE THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO SEND SMALL TEAM TO PORT MORESBY, BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE DO SO. PARA 5, REFTEL A, HOWEVER, MAKES SUCH A VISIT NOW APPEAR IFFY AT BEST. THIS HESITATION MAKES US UNCOMFORTABLE, ESPECIALLY AS TEAM WOULD PROVIDE CHANCE OF BREAKING EXISTING DEADLOCK ON JURISDICTIONAL QUESTION.

4. OUR CONVERSATIONS IN DIPLOMATIC CORPS HAVE SUGGESTED THAT AUSTRALIA IS RELUCTANT TO GET OUT IN FRONT ON FISHERIES AGENCY, BUT NEW ZEALAND MAY BE WILLING TO DO SO. THIS SUGGESTS TO US DESIRABILITY OF HAVING CHRIS BEEBE STOP IN PORT MORESBY EN ROUTE TO TEHRAN TO RAISE QUESTIONS ON GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT OF CONVENTION AREA, MEMBERSHIP, AND OTHER NEW ISSUES MENTIONED PARA 1 REF A. IF BEEBE RAISED THESE QUESTIONS INITIALLY, BELIEVE SMALL TEAM DISCUSSED PARA 4 COULD USEFULLY PURSUE THEM WHILE IN MORESBY, BUT BELIEVE INITIAL PUSH SHOULD COME FROM OTHER SOURCE.

5. FINALLY, BELIEVE DEPT'S SUGGESTION OF INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS IN SUVA WEEK PRIOR TO MEETING HAS MERIT IN WORKING OUT THE LESS CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES, BUT SUCH A SESSION WOULD NOT BE USEFUL IN DEALING WITH PNG INTRANSIGENCE ON JURISDICTION AND ON OTHER STICKY POINTS. WE DO NOT BELIEVE GPNG WOULD FALL OFF A POSITION HELD FIRMLY FOR MANY MONTHS ONLY A WEEK BEFORE A SUBSTANTIVE MEETING. PNG DEL WILL NOT HAVE AUTHORITY TO CHANGE POSITION, AND COMMUNICATIONS BACK TO MORESBY ARE LIKELY TO BE DIFFICULT. IF GPNG IS TO BE MOVED ON JURISDICTION QUESTION, BEST CHANCE REMAINS WITH VISIT OF US TEAM OF EXPERTS TO PORT MORESBY PRIOR TO JUNE. OLMSTED

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FISHERIES MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PORTM00440  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780138-0835  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PORT MORESBY  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t1978038/aaaaagpg.tel  
**Line Count:** 128  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** a8d618c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION OES  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 75501, 78 STATE 40463  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3365118  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY  
**TAGS:** EFIS, XP, XU, PP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/a8d618c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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